

pamphlet laws of that year. The act is numbered 128.

The vast majority of those who were in any way connected with the organization of the new city have passed into the Great Beyond. P. C. Gritman laid out the original city lines, and it was done under much difficulty. The decision to apply for a city charter was reached at a time when expedition was necessary if the matter was to be acted upon by the legislature of 1851. Accordingly he started out on New Year's day of that year, having with him as chain boys Townsend Poore, now of Scranton and the late Thomas Hurley. The snow was knee deep but they persevered and went entirely around the city before the holiday closed. An old account book shows he charged \$15 for it.

A copy of *The Lackawanna Citizen* of March of that year says:

City Election.

The first annual election of officers for this city was held on Friday, the 21st and although the weather was not as favorable as could have been wished 428 votes were polled. Our much esteemed and highly worthy citizen, James Archbald, having received the unanimous support of the delegates from the different wards was elected Mayor by an almost unanimous vote. We give below a statement of the vote as polled:

Mayor: James Archbald.

Select council: Joseph Benjamin, Peter Campbell, Thomas Gillespie, Michael Flynn.

Common council: Thomas Sweet, Daniel Scurry, William Ball, Patrick Moffitt, Sr., James Clarkson, William W. Bronson, Edward Jones, Alexander Bryden, Richard Howarth, Terrence Powderly, Patrick Connor, Daniel Thatcher.

Constables: James White, Isaac Wolf.

Alderman, Fourth ward: Patrick Farrell but vote not reported.

Prosecuting attorney: George Perkins.

Poor masters: John Campbell, John Lee.

Auditors: William H. Richmond, James Stott, Thomas Voyle.

Clerk Mayor's court: William Brennan.

Assessor: Phillips Wilson.

Treasurer, Lewis Pughe



R. B. BENEDICT.

Induction Into Office.

The Mayor, Clerk of the Courts and Prosecuting Attorney, had the oath of office administered to them severally, at the Methodist Episcopal Church, on the evening of the 26th inst by the Hon. William Jessup, President Judge of our judicial district. After the conclusion of the ceremony, the Judge addressed the assembly at considerable length, entering into an explanation of different sections of the charter, about which differences of opinion had heretofore existed. There was a very large congregation of our citizens present and much good feeling was manifested."

The mayor's court had concurrent jurisdiction with the county courts, except in over and terminer cases and in cases belonging to the orphans' court. The first session of the mayor's court was held in the Methodist Church May 13, 1851, Judge Jessup, presiding. A wooden court house was erected at a cost of \$3,000, in 1852, which was burned February 14, 1859, by a fire originating in the cell of Owen Coleman, committed for drunkenness. The present brick building was put up at once. By the operation of the constitution of 1873 the mayor's court was abolished December 31, 1875.

The criminal trial list of the first term of court was as follows: Commonwealth vs. Thomas and Robert Mathews and Francis Bowen riot, surety of peace: recognizance forfeited to be respite next term. Thomas Sherry false pretence under act of 1842, recognizance ditto. William Evans keeping ten-pin alley without license. David Prendergast, assault and battery, recognizance ditto.

FIRST JURIES.

The list of jurors drawn on August 29, 1851, to serve at the September term of the Mayor's court was as follows:

GRAND JURY:—J. W. Burnham, foreman, Wilmot Vail, Seth M. Smith, Henry Rook, Henry Snyder, Wm. Brennan, M. B. White, F. P. Grow, Ward Eaton, Samuel Jones, Wm. M. Arnold, Benjamin Gary, James Ruthven, Orrin Whitmore, Patrick Nealon, Nelson Williams, Anthony Finnerty, H. A. Chambers, James Coyle, Washington Burr, Carbondale; and Joseph Lee, Stephen Whitmore, Greenfield; Scott.

Henry Wedeman, Fell; and Jabez Smith, Scott.

TRAVERSE JURY:—Geo. Silsbee, Lewis Higgins, Jesse Gardner, Richard Howarth, Laton Peters, Andrew Jackson,



P. C. GRITMAN.